

CLASSROOM LAW PROJECT

Section 230 (Online Immunity)

Vocabulary

Directions: Frontload (introduce and review) these vocabulary words with your students to facilitate their understanding of the topic and coinciding resources:

- 1. **Legal Liability** (n.) Responsible or answerable in law.
- 2. **Immunity** (n.) Protection or exemption from something, especially an obligation or penalty.
- 3. **Plain Meaning Rule** (n.) An approach to legal proceedings that relies on the usual and ordinary meaning of a law's text.
- 4. **Telecommunications** (n.) Communication over a distance by cable, telegraph, telephone, or broadcasting.
- 5. **Communications Decency Act** (n.) the United States Congress's first notable attempt to regulate pornographic material on the Internet.

CURRENT EVENT ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Directions: As you read through news and other resources about TOPIC, consider the following questions:

- ➤ What is legal liability and how can it affect businesses?
- > What are the overall objectives of Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act?
- ➤ How are traditional media outlets (e.g., television, radio, print media) treated differently than social media when it comes to legal liability?
- ➤ What are the pros and cons of Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act?
- ➤ How would you rule in the Gonzalez v. Google cases? Explain.
- ➤ In your opinion, is it the Supreme Court's place to change the interpretation of the Communications Decency Act? Explain.
- ➤ In your opinion, what modifications, if any, need to be made to the Communications Decency Act to better reflect life in the 2020's? Explain.